REMARKS

In the interest of expediting the prosecution of this patent application, claims 1-8, 13-24, 26, and 28-34 have been canceled. The cancellation of these claims should not be construed to mean that Applicants acquiesce to the Examiner's position. Claims 9-12, 25, and 27 are pending in the present application. The Examiner has indicated that claims 9-12, 25, and 27 contain allowable subject matter. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that all claims pending in the present application are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at (713) 934-4064 with any questions, comments or suggestions relating to the referenced patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

8/27/03

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